Liber No. 36 Nov. 26

U.H.J. the Bill you had thought fit to frame for paying the Militia, and some other Publick Claimants, Common Justice to such Claimants made Us recommend it to You to replace in the Journal their Several Accounts or Allowances, in Order that they may not be in a Worse State than other Publick Creditors for had the two Houses agreed to pass the Journal and thereupon a Levy Bill in the usual Form had been enacted into a Law such Militia and other Creditors instead of having a preferance would otherwise have had reason to complain of the greatest partiality and Injustice If you are for your parts of Opinion that it would be mispending time at Present to make such Additions to the Journal as we recommended, we do not blame You for declining it, nor would we advise you to make them at any future Session, unless you shall at the same time resolve to make M. Ross the Usual Allowance for the Services as Clerk of the Council, since it is the Determined Resolution of this House never to pass any Journal without it, The Omission of a Single Claim so just as this, established on the most reasonable Grounds, and constantly allowed ever since the Resolution at least, and we believe ever since the first settlement of our Constitution, was enough to make Us suspect other Omissions, and on a cursory perusal of it we found our Suspicions were not without foundation, as would be made appear to you was the Journal to be again sent Us for a Proper and carefull Examination, and we are apt to think we should than discover likewise that not a few Claims are foisted in which ought not in reason to be adp. 192 mitted; but as we expected on a full and accurate Examination we did not choose to discover many more particularly a few Omissions that were obvious lest you should thence conclude it would pass when they alone were rectified. We do not affect ignorance of the Refusal of the Lower House in 1756, to make M.r Ross the Usual Allowance, and we also heard of the Vote you had passed this Session relative thereto, but however obligatory you may consider such Votes, You must not imagine they will have the least Weight with this House unless you can convince Us of their being reasonable and consistent with Justice, which is by no means the Case on the Present Occasion, If Gentlemen you can shew Us any Presedent of a Clerk of the Council, appearing before the Committee of Lower House or delivering them an Account to shew by what Particular Services he had earned the Tobacco annually allowed them on the Journal, We will recommend it to M. Ross to make you out a Bill of Particulars but if no such Presedent can be produced to countenance Your Requisition. We are not dispossed at this time to suffer such Innovations, or gratify the Curiossity you have to know on what Particular Business the Gentlemen of the Council have from time to time been called together or consulted, How much the Money annually collected in this Province for the Support of Government might amount to, We do not exactly know. But we believe it is far short of what you Would